

U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service

Manti-La Sal National Forest Monticello Ranger District 496 East Central PO Box 820 Monticello, UT 84535 (435) 587-2041

For Immediate Release October 6, 2006

Blue Creek Prescribed Fire

San Juan County, Utah ...The Monticello Ranger District plans to implement the Blue Creek Prescribed Burn this fall. The project is located between Hop Creek, North Cottonwood Creek, Blue Creek, and Shay Ridge. The implementation is scheduled for October 15th - 20th but may also occur in the first weeks of November. The project will be accomplished with hand and aerial ignition (heli-torch). The return of fire to this area will increase vegetation diversity such as forbs, grasses, and sagebrush which also increase wildlife habitat diversity.

Public and firefighter safety are the greatest concern for all projects on the Monticello Ranger District. Because of risks involved with this project, signs will be posted along area roads and trails. The effected trails include: 008, 011, 013, 018, 098,162, 164, 435, and 437. Effected roads are FS 104 west of Foy Lake and spurs to the west. The public is asked to remain outside the signed areas while the burn is being conducted. Personnel will be in monitoring fire activity and will strive to minimize impacts to forest visitors.

For information on the Blue Creek Prescribed Burn contact Brenda Dale (435) 636-3357 or the Monticello District Office (435) 587-2041. Continue to report new wildfires to the Moab Interagency Fire Center at (435) 259-1850. For additional Utah wildfire information go to www.utahfireinfo.gov.

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